



S.N. 09/681,220

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Group Art Unit: 3737  
VENKAT S. VENKATARAMANI et al. : Examiner: MAULIN M. PATEL  
Serial No. 09/681,220 : Response to Paper No. 2  
Filed: February 27, 2000  
For: MATCHING LAYER HAVING GRADIENT IN  
IMPEDANCE FOR ULTRASOUND TRANSDUCERS

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 (a)**

HONORABLE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claim 4 to read as follows:

4. (Amended) A matching layer for an ultrasound probe, said matching layer comprising a plurality of sublayers attached together, the sublayers having different impedance values, a first sublayer of the plurality of sublayers being disposed adjacent to an element of a transducer of the ultrasound probe, a last sublayer of